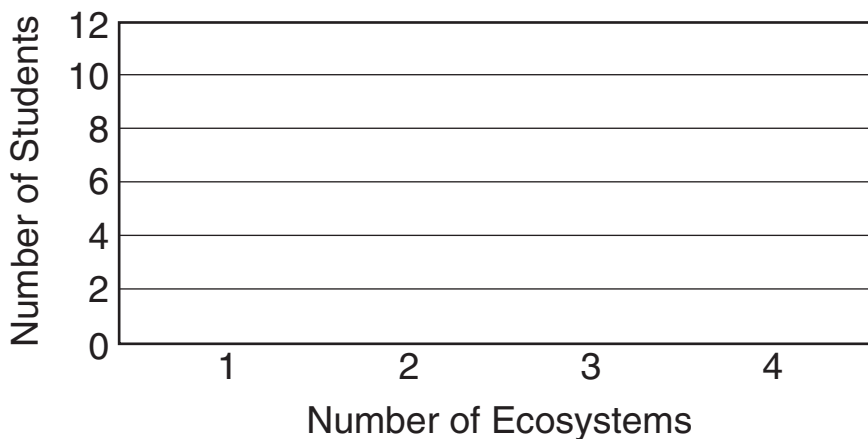


# Competition

## Procedure

- 1. Use Variables** Your teacher will set up four model ecosystems. Each ecosystem is represented by a plate covered with a sheet of paper. Some plates contain many pretzels, some contain few pretzels, and some contain no pretzels.
- 2. Use Models** Stand in the center of the room. When your teacher says “Go,” choose an ecosystem and walk to it.  
**Safety:** Do not run or push others.
- 3.** Peek under the paper. If there is a pretzel, take the pretzel and stand by the ecosystem. If there are no pretzels, move on to another ecosystem.
- 4.** Repeat step 3 until you find a pretzel.
- 5. Communicate** When every student has found a pretzel, make a bar graph in the space below. The graph should show how many ecosystems each student visited before finding food.

**Ecosystems Visited Before Finding Food**



## **Conclusion**

**Write the answers to the questions below.**

- 1. Analyze Data** Which ecosystem held the greatest number of pretzels? The least?

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- 2. Predict** How might an organism be affected if the food in its ecosystem were eaten by other organisms?

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## **Investigate More!**

**Solve a Problem** Take away several pretzels, then repeat the activity. Think of ways that each student could still get some food. Share your ideas with your classmates.

